

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS  
RENDERED BY THE INTER-  
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON  
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

*Edited by*

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 274

Addition of the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy,  
1830 (Class Insecta, Order Diptera) to the *Official List  
of Generic Names in Zoology* (*Opinion* supplementary to  
*Opinion* 82)

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

## COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 274

### A. The Officers of the Commission

- President* : Dr. Karl Jordan, Ph.D., F.R.S. (*British Museum (Natural History), Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts, England*).  
*Vice-President* : Dr. James L. Peters (*Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*).  
*Secretary* : Mr. Francis Hemming, C.M.G., C.B.E. (*London, England*).

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Dr. Harold E. VOKES (*United States Geological Survey, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*).

#### *Class 1955*

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Dr. William Thomas CALMAN (*Tayport, Fife, Scotland*).  
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Professor Béla HANKÓ (*University of Debrecen, Hungary*).  
Dr. Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Polish Zoological Museum, Warsaw, Poland*).  
Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A.*).

### C. Alternate Members of the Commission at the Session held in Paris in 1948

- Professor Enrique BELTRÁN (*Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables A.C., Mexico City, Mexico*).  
Dr. Edward HINDLE (*Zoological Society of London, London, England*).  
Dr. Arturo Ricardo JORGE (*Museu Bocage, Lisbon, Portugal*).  
Professor Harold KIRBY (*University of California, Berkeley, California, U.S.A.*).  
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Mr. N. D. RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London, England*).  
Professor Ragnar SPÄRCK (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*).  
Professor Victor van STRAELEN (*Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles, Belgium*).  
Professor Robert L. USINGER (*University of California, Berkeley, California, U.S.A.*).

## OPINION 274

ADDITION OF THE NAME "CALLIPHORA" ROBINEAU-DESVOIDY, 1830 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER DIPTERA)  
TO THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC  
NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" ("OPINION"  
SUPPLEMENTARY TO "OPINION" 82)

**RULING** :—(1) The generic name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 (gender of name: feminine) (type species, by original designation: *Musca vomitoria* Linnaeus, 1758) (Class Insecta, Order Diptera) is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 692.

(2) The specific name *vomitoria* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Musca vomitoria*, is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* as Name No. 96.

### I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 28th November 1945 Professor Dr. H. Boschma (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) drew attention to the fact that, although Dr. W. Dwight Pierce in the application dealt with in the Commission's *Opinion* 82 (1925, *Smithson. misc. Coll.* 73 (No. 3): 1—7) had raised the question of the status not only of the generic name *Musca* Linnaeus, 1758, but also of the generic name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 (Class Insecta, Order Diptera), the Commission in the foregoing *Opinion* had dealt only with the status of the first of these names. Professor Boschma criticised the incomplete character of the decision given in *Opinion* 82 and expressed the view that its shortcomings should now be remedied by the International Commission. After an exchange of correspondence between the Secretary and Dr. Boschma (terminating with a letter from the

latter dated 5th January 1946), the following formal application was submitted to the International Commission by Dr. Boschma:—

**Proposed addition of “ Calliphora ” Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 (Class Insecta, Order Diptera) to the “ Official List of Generic Names in Zoology ” (request for an “ Opinion ” Supplementary to “ Opinion ” 82)**

By H. BOSCHMA

(*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

In the application dealt with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in *Opinion* 82 (published in 1925) the Commission were asked to take a two-fold action as regards each of two names of genera belonging to the Order Diptera (Class Insecta). That is to say they were asked:—

- (A) (1) to validate the name *Musca* Linnaeus, 1758, with *Musca domestica* Linnaeus, 1758, as type ;
- (2) to place the name *Musca* Linnaeus, with the above species as type, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (B) (1) to validate the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy with *Musca vomitoria* Linnaeus, 1758, as type ; and
- (2) to place the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, with the above species as type, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

For some reason which is not apparent, the only one of the foregoing requests dealt with in express terms in *Opinion* 82 is that regarding the validation of *Musca* Linnaeus, with *Musca domestica* Linnaeus, as type. No reference was made in that decision either to the type of *Calliphora* R.-D. or to the question of placing that name and *Musca* Linnaeus on the *Official List*.

Recently it has been ruled in connection with *Opinion* 137 (Jordan, 1945, in *Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature* 2 : (8)) that, where (as in the case of *Musca* Linnaeus) the International Commission used their Plenary Powers to validate a given generic name, the decision so taken carried with it automatically a decision to place the name so validated on the *Official List*, irrespective of whether or not the last-named decision was expressly recorded in the *Opinion* rendered by the Commission. Under this ruling, therefore, no further action is required as regards the name *Musca* Linnaeus, 1758, since it has now been placed on the *Official List* and thereby stabilised.

It is unfortunate that no action was taken by the International Commission as regards the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830,

at the time when *Opinion* 82 was adopted, since the decision then taken as regards the name *Musca* Linnaeus, 1758, cleared away all difficulties as regards the name *Calliphora*. In order to dispose of the case submitted in connection with *Opinion* 82, the Commission are now asked to place the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, type species, *Musca vomitoria* Linnaeus, 1758, by original designation by Robineau-Desvoidy, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

## II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. *Registration of the present application*: On receipt the present application was given the Registered Number Z.N. (S.) 201. At the same time, a note was placed in the file suggesting that, although the present application was concerned only with the failure of the International Commission to deal with one of the two names raised in the application submitted by Dr. Pierce which formed the subject of the Ruling given in *Opinion* 82, Dr. Boschma's present application raised also an important question of principle—namely the need for ensuring that Rulings given in *Opinions* should cover the whole of the subject matter submitted for decision—to which it was desirable that the Commission should give consideration at the same time as it gave a decision on the narrower question (of the status of the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy) raised expressly by Dr. Boschma.

3. *Submission of the present application to the Commission in Paris in 1948*: On 25th July 1948 Mr. Hemming, as Secretary, submitted to the International Commission a Paper (I.C.(48)19), containing summaries of the principal points arising on a number of individual cases. The first two points included in this paper were concerned (1) with the general question of the need for securing that Rulings given in *Opinions* should be complete, and (2) with the individual case of the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830. This portion of Mr. Hemming's paper contained a summary of the twofold application by Professor Boschma reproduced in paragraph 1 of the present *Opinion*. Later, Mr. Hemming's Paper was published as part of the historical record of the Proceedings of the International Commission during its Paris Session (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 3 : 135—138).

### III.—THE DECISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

4. As a preliminary to the consideration of the individual name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, the International Commission at the Thirteenth Meeting of its Session held in Paris in 1948, took into consideration the question of the need for ensuring that Rulings given in *Opinions* should cover the whole of the required ground. The decision reached by the Commission on this subject is set out in the following extract from the Official Record of its Proceedings (Paris Session, 13th Meeting, Conclusion 2) (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 355) :—

#### THE COMMISSION :—

- (1) took note, with disapproval, of the practice by which in the past an *Opinion* had sometimes been rendered which dealt with part only of the application submitted, no decision having been taken either then or at a later date on the remainder of the application in question ;
- (2) agreed to invite the Secretary to the Commission to examine all the *Opinions* so far rendered by the Commission, with a view to ascertaining every instance where part only of an application had been dealt with, and to submit proposals as soon as possible for the rendering as a matter of urgency, of supplementary *Opinions* dealing with the questions left unanswered in the earlier *Opinions* concerned.

5. Having thus reached a decision on the general question of principle raised in Dr. Boschma's application, the International Commission turned to consider the proposals submitted in regard to the name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, at the Thirteenth Meeting of its Paris Session held at the Sorbonne in the Amphithéâtre Louis-Liard on Monday, 26th July 1948 at 1730 hours. The following extract from the Official Record of the Proceedings of the International Commission sets out the decision reached by it in the present case at the foregoing meeting

(Paris Session, 13th Meeting, Conclusion 3) (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 355—356) :—

THE COMMISSION agreed :—

- (1) to place the generic name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 (Class Insecta, Order Diptera) (type species by original designation : *Musca vomitoria* Linnaeus, 1758) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* and the trivial name *vomitoria* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binominal combination *Musca vomitoria*, on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* ;
- (2) to render an *Opinion* setting out the decision recorded in (1) above.

6. The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

*Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, *Mém. présentés Acad. roy. Sci. Inst. France* **2** : 433  
*vomitoria*, *Musca*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 595

7. The gender of the generic name *Calliphora* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, referred to in the decision quoted in paragraph 5 above, is feminine.

8. The decision taken in the present case was reported to, and approved by, the Section on Nomenclature of the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, at its Fifth Meeting held on Monday, 26th July 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **5** : 104—105).

9. The Ruling given in the present *Opinion* was concurred in by the sixteen (16) Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners present at the Paris Session of the International Commission, namely :—

Beltrán *vice* Cabrera ; Boschma ; Bradley ; di Caporiacco ; Hemming ; Hindle *vice* Jordan ; Jorge *vice* do Amaral ; Kirby *vice* Stoll ; Lemche *vice* Dymond ; Mansour *vice*

Hankó ; Metcalf *vice* Peters ; Riley *vice* Calman ; Rode ; Spärck *vice* Mortensen ; van Straelen *vice* Richter ; Usinger *vice* Vokes.

10. The Ruling given in the present *Opinion* was dissented from by no Commissioner or Alternate Commissioner present at the Paris Session.

11. At the time of the adoption of the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression "trivial name" and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word "trivial" appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression "specific name" was substituted for the expression "trivial name" and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such names (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions Zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

12. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

13. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion Two Hundred and Seventy-Four (274)* of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Fifteenth day of January, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Four.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

**FRANCIS HEMMING**